

8 January 1957

ATTN : Chief, St/I
THRU : Chief, D/S
Chief, S/TR

25X1A9a

25X1A2g

Evaluation of [REDACTED] Reports

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In response to your request for an evaluation of [REDACTED] Reports, the following comments pertain to reports received by S/TR:

A. Rail and Highway Section

25X1A2g 1. [REDACTED] exploits books for land transportation information, which occasionally provide information not available from other sources. Very often, however, the books contain prewar data, or have prewar publication dates, and thus have relatively little value.

25X1A2g 2. [REDACTED] also exploits magazines and newspapers for land transportation information. Insofar as the material is concerned with facilities only, the information is of restricted value, since we do not generally file data on transportation facilities, and should be able, when necessary, to obtain this information from Industrial Register or from other intelligence agencies. However, we do file the better items on facilities because it saves considerable time when we are called on for such information and do not have the time available to visit IR or the other agencies. We maintain file data on traffic movements, finances, rates and fares, inventory of freight cars, locomotives, and motor vehicles, and the operation of railroads and highways, regardless of source. [REDACTED] material containing this type of information is of value to us. The same is true of material on new lines.

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25X1A2g 3. Although other agencies, including FDD, often cover the same publications as does [REDACTED], there is relatively little duplication of translated material. This is due to the fact that there is so much good information available in Bloc publications that no one agency is capable of fully exploiting them. The only major duplication of material between [REDACTED] and other translation organizations has been in major transportation speeches in the USSR covering five-year plans and performances. Such major articles are adequately covered by FDD.

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4. In summary, S/TR(L) would like to continue to receive [REDACTED] materials. It might reduce the work of ORR Reading Panel if the readers would route 25X1A2g on the basis of selected Category Numbers shown in the heading of the [REDACTED] Card.

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B. Water and Air Sections

1. The selections for translation are usually outdated. For example, the reports forwarded with the request for evaluation have publication dates from 1945 to 1955.

2. The subject matter is not of sufficient importance to warrant publication.

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3. An air schedule such as the one given in [REDACTED] is available promptly through other sources.

4. S/TR(A) and S/TR(W) therefore recommend that these reports be discontinued.

[REDACTED]

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Distribution:

Original and 1 - Addressee
1 - Ch/D/S
2 - Ch/S/TR

ORR/S/TR/[REDACTED]:eab/2745

(9 January 1957)

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8 January 1957

THRU : Chief, St/I/R
Chief, D/S
Chief, S/TR

Requirements in Reference to St/I Notice 100

REF. : #125, Town Brief of Alma Ata (TurkSib RR, 1672 km from Novosibirsk)
#126, Town Brief of Tashkent (Tashkent RR, 2671 km from Novosibirsk)

The following information is required on Alma Ata and Tashkent.

1. Description and map or schematic drawing of railroad station, yards, junctions, storage houses, engine and car sheds.
2. Location of all rail lines approaching the city for six kilometers out, with number of tracks in each, approximate weight of rail, type of ties and ballast, and general condition of maintenance.
3. Type of motive power, (steam, diesel or electric), in use with description of and markings on engines.
4. Types of freight cars seen in the area with some idea of relative quality or frequency.
5. Types of commodities seen moving on trains in each direction or being loaded on or unloaded from stationary freight cars.
6. Train counts of freight train movements through the station, with direction of each, and any and all information concerning freight trains on the move, sighted in the area.
7. Length of passenger train consists and types and condition of equipment seen in station, or elsewhere in environs of city.

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